

First Union Rail Corporation

One O'Hare Center
6250 River Road, Suite 5000
Rosemont, Illinois 60018-4214
847 318-7575
Fax 847 318-7588

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS



July 7, 1998

RECORDATION NO. 21496

FILED

JUL 8 '98

1-27 PM

Surface Transportation Board
Attn: Jan Fort
1925 K Street, N.W., Room 704
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Re: Memorandum of Lease Agreement

Dear Ms. Fort:

Enclosed for recordation pursuant to the provisions of 49 U.S.C. Section 11301(a) are two (2) originals and two (2) copies of a Memorandum of Lease Agreement, dated August 25, 1997, a primary document as defined in the Board's Rules for the Recordation of Documents. The names and addresses of the parties to the enclosed document are:

Lessor: First Union Rail Corporation
One O'Hare Centre
6250 River Road, Suite 5000
Rosemont, IL 60018

Lessee: Montana Rail Link, Inc.
101 International Way
P.O. Box 8779
Missoula, Montana 59807-8779

A description of the railroad equipment covered by the enclosed document is set forth on Exhibit A, as attached to such Memorandum.

Also enclosed is a check in the amount of \$26.00 payable to the order of the Surface Transportation Board covering the required recordation fee. Kindly return one (1) stamped original of the enclosed document to the undersigned.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the above-referenced matter, please feel free to contact me at (847) 384-5355. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan Grokulsky".

Susan Grokulsky
Manager – Documents Administration

Enclosures

(MRL006)

ASSIGN: MRL006

MEMORANDUM OF LEASE

RECORDATION NO. 21496 FILED
JUL 8 '98 1-27 PM

THIS MEMORANDUM OF LEASE (the "Memorandum") is made and entered into as of this the 25th day of August, 1997, by and between First Union Rail Corporation ("Lessor"), a North Carolina corporation, and Montana Rail Link, Inc. ("Lessee").

WITNESSETH:

The undersigned Lessor and Lessee have entered into that certain Lease Agreement, dated as of August 25, 1997, whereby Lessor has agreed to lease to Lessee certain railcars being described in more particular on Exhibit A attached, hereto, effective as of the date set forth above and subject to the terms, conditions and provisions of said Lease.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have each caused this Memorandum to be duly executed under seal by their respective officers duly authorized as of the date and year first above written.

LESSOR:

FIRST UNION RAIL CORPORATION

By: J. Thomas

Name: JACK THOMAS
President

Title: _____

ATTEST:

By: Michelle Berg

Name: Michelle Berg

Title: Office Manager

Executed on this 30 day of June, 1998.

[CORPORATE SEAL]

STATE OF Illinois

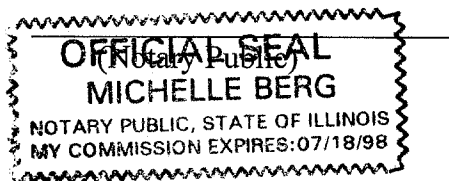
COUNTY OF Cook

I, Michelle Berg, a Notary Public in and for said state and county, certify that John J. Thomas personally appeared before me this day and acknowledged his due execution of the foregoing Memorandum of Lease.

WITNESS my hand and official stamp or seal, this 30 day of June, 1998.

Michelle Berg
Notary Public

My Commission Expires:



LESSEE:

MONTANA RAIL LINK, INC.

By: William H. Brodsky

Name: WILLIAM H. BRODSKY

Title: PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

By: Mel Dinius

Name: Mel Dinius

Title: Senior CMO

Executed on this 22 day of June, 1998.

[CORPORATE SEAL]

STATE OF Montana

COUNTY OF Missoula

I, Lynda M. Frost, a Notary Public in and for said state and county, certify that William H. Brodsky personally appeared before me this day and acknowledged his due execution of the foregoing Memorandum of Lease.

WITNESS my hand and official stamp or seal, this 22nd day of June, 1998.

Lynda M. Frost
Notary Public

My Commission Expires:

August 24, 2000
(Notary Public)

EXHIBIT A
to
Memorandum of Lease

Fifty (50) 2,747 c.f. Gondola Railcars

Car Numbers

MRL 041050 -- 041099 (inclusive)